Compare Stories

Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

Name _____ Date _____

Circle the answer.

READ THIS FIRST

Two Stories About Zara and Grandpa

Story 1: The Wobbly Bike

Zara's old bike had a loose wheel. Every time she rode it, the bike wobbled. On Saturday, Grandpa set out his toolbox on the driveway.

"Can we fix it fast?" Zara asked. "I want to ride now."

"Good work takes time," Grandpa said. He showed her how to tighten each bolt, one at a time. Zara got grease on her hands and tried to hurry. A bolt rolled under the car. She sighed and crawled after it. Grandpa handed her a rag to wipe her hands.

Finally, the wheel was tight. Zara rode down the street, smooth and steady. She waved at Grandpa with a big grin.

Story 2: The Birdhouse

In winter, Zara and Grandpa built a birdhouse in the garage. Zara wanted to paint it right away. But Grandpa said they had to sand the wood first.

Zara rubbed the sandpaper back and forth. Her arms got tired. "This is boring," she said.

"Smooth wood holds paint better," Grandpa told her.

Zara kept sanding until the wood felt like silk. They nailed on the roof together. Then she painted the birdhouse bright blue. In spring, two little wrens moved in. Zara watched them from the window and felt proud.

1. What lesson do both stories teach?
   - Bikes are more fun than birdhouses.
   - Always keep your tools in a toolbox.
   - Grandparents should do the hard work.
   - Taking time to do a job well pays off.

2. How are the settings of the two stories different?
   - Story 1 is at school, and Story 2 is at a store.
   - Story 1 is in the garage, and Story 2 is on the driveway.
   - Both stories take place at a park.
   - Story 1 is on the driveway, and Story 2 is in the garage.

3. How is Zara alike in both stories?
   - She wants to rush at the start.
   - She gives up before the job is done.
   - She fixes things all by herself.
   - She is afraid of Grandpa's tools.

4. Which story tells about a bolt rolling under the car?
   Story 2 neither story Story 1 both stories

5. In Story 2, what does Grandpa say to explain why they must wait?
   Good work takes time.
   Smooth wood holds paint better.
   Birds like blue houses best.
   Paint dries faster in spring.

6. How do both stories end?
   Zara breaks what she has made.
   Zara decides to start a new project.
   Zara feels good about the finished work.
   Zara asks Grandpa to finish the job.

7. Zara sanded until the wood felt like silk. What does this mean?
   The wood was very rough. The wood was very heavy. The wood was very smooth.
   The wood was very wet.

8. How are the jobs in the two stories different?
   Both stories are about painting a house.
   Both stories are about fixing a bike.
   Story 1 builds something new, and Story 2 is a repair.
   Story 1 is a repair, and Story 2 builds something new.

9. What happens in Story 2 that shows the hard work paid off?
   Zara rode down the street smoothly.
   Zara's arms got tired from sanding.
   Grandpa set out his toolbox.
   Two wrens moved into the birdhouse.

10. Why are these two stories called stories in a series?
    They both happen on the same Saturday.
    They have the same characters in new adventures.
    They tell the same events in different words.
    They are both mostly about birds.

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Answer Key - Grade 3 Reading Worksheet

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